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Report of the Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 1947



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INTRODUCTION

The fiscal year 1947 was the eighth year of active operation for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. The year was marked by important events and changes in the crop insurance program which will result in the program entering a new stage in its development. The Corporation's history to date divides logically into two definite stages.

The first stage of development of Federal crop insurance was 5 crop years from 1939 through 1943 when Federal crop insurance was launched with a bold attempt to insure unavoidable crop losses on a Nation-wide scale. Only wheat was insured during the first 3 years and both wheat and cotton in 1942 and 1943. Net losses were suffered each year and Congress suspended the program and placed the Corporation in a liquidating status so that no crops were insured in 1944.

The second stage in the development of a Federal crop-insurance program began with the crop year 1945, following reinstatement of the program by the Congress, and extends through the 1947 crop year. Wheat, cotton, and flax were insured on a Nation-wide basis during this period, and insurance was started on tobacco and corn on a limited

experimental scale in a few counties.

The experience gained in the first period enabled the Corporation to establish a better basis of insurance for the second period. During this second period, the Corporation was operated with a profit on three of the five commodities—wheat, flax, and tobacco—and with only a small loss on corn. However, the heavy losses on cotton continued in 1945 and 1946 to an extent that made it advisable to obtain further experience before offering this insurance on a Nation-wide basis.

Recent legislation limited the scope of crop insurance operations beginning with the 1948 crop year. As a result of these limitations, the third period now being entered by the Corporation will be one characterized by experimentation rather than large-scale Nation-wide operations. Operations on wheat, cotton, and flax will be contracted while those on tobacco and corn will be expanded. The Corporation also may initiate experimental insurance on other crops in a few counties under the recent legislation which allows considerable latitude for trying different plans of insurance.

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REPORT OF THE MANAGER OF THE FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION, 1947

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION,
Washington, D. C., September 25, 1947.

Hon. Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture.

DEAR Mr. SECRETARY: I present herewith the annual report of the

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation for the fiscal year 1947.

This report goes beyond the customary scope of the usual annual report, as a result of the changed legislation which places Federal crop insurance on an experimental basis during its development period. The report covers the detailed operations of the Corporation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1947, reviews the purposes and objectives of crop insurance, summarizes the experience to date, and indicates probable trends of future operations.

Sincerely yours,

G. F. Geissler,

Manager.

Page Page Purpose and objective of crop Crop insurance experience—Con. 1 Experimental crop insurinsurance_____ History of crop insurance..... 23 Tobacco experience____ 24 New legislation and its effect on Corn experience_____ 25 future programs_____ Financial statements_____ 36 Crop insurance experience for the Explanatory comments on 6 fiscal year 1947 balance sheet_____ 37 Wheat crop insurance_____ 6 Explanatory comments on Cotton crop insurance____ 12 administrative and operat-Flax crop insurance_____ 19 ing expenses_____ 40

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PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE OF CROP INSURANCE

The immediate goal of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation is to develop a sound basis of insurance that is acceptable to the farmer. Accomplishment of this goal on all major crops may well require many years. Only after long periods of trial and experimentation have less complex types of insurance reached their present level of refinement. Federal crop-insurance experience to date is very brief when measured in terms of the time required to develop sound insurance programs in other risks insured by private industry.

The ultimate goal of Federal crop insurance is to provide farmers the opportunity to secure protection against crop losses from production risks over which they have no control. Large sums of money are spent each year in agricultural research to develop better varieties of seed, more effective means of controlling insects and diseases, and improved methods of farming. Soil-conservation practices have been encouraged by making available technical assistance as well as cash payments to farmers. Price supports have been provided for more than a decade to help maintain some degree of stability in farm income. Despite all these measures, the farmer will receive but little income in any year if he invests his time, money, and effort to produce a crop only to be faced with a crop failure due to some cause over which he has no control. Insurance protection spans this crop-failure gap. It is an essential part of a well-rounded agricultural program designed to provide economic security for the farmer.

Through crop insurance, farmers join together to protect each other against the full impact of major crop losses. Farmers pay premiums each year, and those among them whose production efforts fail through no fault of their own receive indemnities. Development of a sound crop-insurance program will tend to reduce the need for farm relief appropriations such as Congress has found it necessary to provide

in the past following serious and widespread crop failures.

Although the primary purpose of crop insurance is to protect farmers against crop losses over which they have no control, the economic stability of the business community and the national economy benefit greatly as a result of reducing the full impact of crop disasters. The welfare of many communities depends directly on farm income. The welfare of our Nation is closely interwoven with that of the farmer. When the income or credit of the farmer is impaired, it affects all who depend either directly or indirectly on his purchasing power.

HISTORY OF CROP INSURANCE

Insurance has been available for many years to private enterprises to cover operations comparable to production risks in farming. Whereas protection through insurance has been available on grain and other agricultural commodities after harvest through the shipping, storage, processing, and distribution stages before it reaches the consumer, it has not been generally available through the more hazardous production stage. Insurance against the many unavoidable risks of crop production has not been developed successfully by private

sources even though the need has long been recognized.

During the past 50 years attempts have been made by numerous private companies to provide all-risk crop insurance. Without exception the experience of these companies was costly and they were forced to withdraw from this important insurance field. Major factors in the failure of those attempts by private companies were (1) the insurance of income rather than loss of yield, (2) inadequate data for determining the degree of risk, and (3) adverse selectivity of insurance risks through late-season sales. These attempts have been a useful source of information and also emphasize the difficulties in developing a sound crop insurance program.

Since insurance against unavoidable crop disasters was not otherwise available, Congress enacted the Federal Crop Insurance Act of 1938. This act provided that all-risk crop insurance should be offered on wheat beginning with the 1939 crop year and that studies should be made which could be used as a basis for expanding the program to additional commodities. In 1941 by amendment to the act, Congress provided that cotton-crop insurance be offered on a national basis beginning with the 1942 crop. The Corporation was placed in a liquidating status by appropriation legislation and no crops were insured in the calendar year 1944.

The second period of the Corporation's activities began in December of 1944, when an amendment to the Federal Crop Insurance Act authorized the Corporation to resume writing insurance in 1945 on wheat and cotton and to begin writing flax insurance nationally. This amendment also authorized the writing of crop insurance on other commodities on a limited experimental basis. The Corporation has been operating under this amendment during the past fiscal year.

From a modest beginning in 1939, when 165,775 farms in the United States were covered with Federal crop insurance, this program has shown a steady growth to a total of 539,777 crop-insurance contracts with farmers covering their 1947 wheat, cotton, flax, tobacco, and corn crops. Tobacco and corn insurance was offered in only a few experimental counties. These 1947 contracts represent guaranteed production to farmers on the insured crops of about \$500,000,000 at a premium cost of approximately \$51,000,000.

The experience gained has been used to improve the basis for insurance on all crops. The Corporation's underwriting experience has varied considerably by years and by commodities. The variation between years is inevitable because of differing weather and crop conditions. However, the variation between commodities is to a certain degree indicative of how successfully the program is functioning

on the different commodities.

Although wheat-insurance indemnities exceeded premiums in each of the first 5 years of operation, this trend was reversed in 1945 and by the end of the 1947 crop year wheat-insurance operations for the 8 years will show premiums collected almost equal to indemnities paid. This premium surplus for recent years reflects not only good crop conditions but also improvements that have been made in the wheat-insurance program.

Cotton insurance has shown an operating deficit each year. This deficit through 1946 amounts to 79 percent of the operating deficit for all commodities combined. The cotton losses for both 1945 and 1946 were unusually heavy due principally to poor crop conditions.

Flax-insurance experience for the 2-year period 1945-46 has been favorable, with the loss in commodity units amounting to 72 percent of the premiums. Tobacco insurance losses amount to only about 50 percent of the total premiums, and corn insurance shows a small operating deficit due to heavy losses in the first year of the 2-year period 1945-46.

The past fiscal year was an important milestone in the development of all-risk crop insurance. The year was marked by several major events, some of which sharply affected the future operations of the Corporation. The more important of these were: (1) Premium

balances were accumulated on wheat, tobacco, and corn, (2) a slight loss was experienced in flax with substantial losses in cotton, (3) the heavy cotton losses exhausted the paid-in capital and forced the temporary suspension of payment of cotton indemnities, and (4) new legislation was enacted which will change the future course of operations of the Corporation. These events are discussed in detail in the following sections.

NEW LEGISLATION AND ITS EFFECT ON FUTURE PROGRAMS

Prior legislation provided for experimental insurance on various commodities for a 3-year period. The year 1947 ends this period for tobacco and corn. Because of this and the continued heavy losses on cotton, the Congress in the spring of 1947 reviewed the entire operations of the Corporation. Hearings were held before the House and Senate committees on agriculture. It was felt that the cropinsurance program should be restricted. It was also felt, however, that the program should be extensive enough so that the experience would be representative of the problems of all areas, but at the same time restrictive enough so that the cost of the experience would not be burdensome to the Government. The views of the House committee on the scale of operations and the length of time which will be required to develop a sound crop insurance program were rather clearly set forth in its report which accompanied the amendment to the act. This report reads in part as follows:

* * The committee believes it should be recognized that the development of a sound crop-insurance program covering even the major agricultural commodities on a Nation-wide basis is a long-time project that may well take years in its accomplishment. * * * It does not believe that this can be accomplished overnight nor that it is reasonable to expect that a half-dozen crop seasons of experience will achieve for crop insurance what it took other forms of commodity insurance many years of trial and error to develop. The committee is convinced, however, that the best interests of farmers themselves will be most truly served if the Public Treasury is protected against excessive loss, by curtailment of the insurance program during its development period to the smallest scale consistent with effective experimentation, and expanding it later only when experience has indicated that a sound insurance plan has been worked out. * * *

In accordance with the foregoing, the Federal Crop Insurance Act was amended in July 1947, and the entire crop-insurance program was placed on an experimental basis. The amendment provides that, commencing with the 1948 crop year, crop insurance may be offered in not more than 200 counties in the case of wheat, 56 counties in cotton, 50 counties each in corn and flax, and 35 counties in tobacco. Crop insurance may also be offered beginning with the 1948 crop year on two additional commodities in not to exceed 20 counties each. Other new commodities may be added commencing in 1949 on not to exceed three commodities per year.

The counties selected in each case are to be representative of the several areas where the agricultural commodity insured is normally produced except that insurance is not to be provided in those counties where the income from the insurable crop constitutes an unimportant part of the total agricultural income. To offer insurance in areas where the insurable commodity is of minor importance serves but little useful purpose to the farmer inasmuch as he would have protection on only a small part of his farming operations. At the same

time, considerable savings in administrative costs can be effected by not offering crop insurance in those areas until insurance on the major

crop produced in those areas is offered.

The new amendment provides a greater degree of flexibility for experimentation in developing a sound and workable basis of insurance. It provides that insurance may be offered under any plan or plans provided sufficient actuarial data are available. However, it also provides that insurance against loss of yield cannot cover more than 75 percent of the recorded or appraised average yield for the farm. If 75 percent of the average yield represents generally more protection than the investment in the crop in the area, this maximum percentage is to be reduced so as to more nearly reflect the investment in the crop in the area. This secondary limitation applies to an area generally and the percent does not vary from farm to farm within an area. The purpose of this is to avoid over-insurance and at the same time to afford protection equal to approximately the investment in the crop.

Prior legislation provided that insurance on wheat, cotton, and flax, the commodities insured nationally, could be only against loss of yield. The maximum coverage was 75 percent of the farm average yield but there was no secondary limitation. For trial insurance on tobacco and corn, prior legislation provided that insurance could be based on either of two plans. One was not to exceed 75 percent of the farm average yield and the other was not to exceed 75 percent

of the investment in the crop.

Under the new amendment, insurance cannot be provided in any county unless written applications filed, together with contracts in force, cover 200 farms or one-third of the farms normally producing the agricultural commodity, whichever is the smaller. This minimum applies to each commodity separately where 2 or more commodities may be insured in any county. Prior legislation required a minimum of the smaller of 50 farms or one-third of the farms normally producing the insurable commodities, and this minimum applied to all commodities combined. The reason for increasing this minimum from 50 to 200 is twofold. The primary reason is that a larger and presumably a more representative group of producers may be insured, thus resulting in less selectivity. The secondary reason involves the interest of farmers in insurance and the advisability of expending administrative costs in counties where less than 200 farms are covered by insurance.

In an attempt to encourage private industry to re-enter the field of all-risk crop insurance, the new amendment includes a provision whereby the Corporation may reinsure private insurance companies which insure producers of agricultural commodities under contracts acceptable to the Corporation. In line with the over-all restriction on the number of counties, reinsurance is limited to 20 counties selected

by the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

The amendment permits the Corporation to compute the cash equivalent of premiums and indemnities on the basis of the parity or comparable prices for the commodity as determined and published by the Secretary of Agriculture. This will permit the establishment of a commodity price before the insurance is sold. Where this is done, insurance can be sold on the basis of a premium rate quoted

in terms of dollars. Its use will also preclude the necessity of carrying premium reserves in commodity units rather than dollars for yield insurance. These commodity operations have been rather expensive

in prior years.

Several management and administrative changes are included in the new amendment. The Board will now be composed of five members appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Three of the members will be employees of the Department of Agriculture and the two other members will be persons experienced in the insurance business who are not otherwise employed by the Government. The Manager of the Corporation will be one of the three members of the Board of Directors employed by the Department. The Board will be appointed by and hold office at the pleasure of the Secretary of Agriculture. Previously, the Board was composed of three members, all of whom were employees of the Department. Another change in administration is that the employees or agencies responsible for administrating the program in each county are to be selected and designated by the Corporation and shall be responsible directly to the Corporation.

Under the foregoing legislative changes the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation in 1948 will retreat from operating a program on a national basis to operating on a restricted basis. This change in operations will enable the Corporation to concentrate its efforts on further

developing a sound all-risk crop insurance program.

CROP INSURANCE EXPERIENCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1947

The fiscal year ends about the middle of the growing season for most commodities. Inasmuch as insurance ordinarily covers a crop from the time it is planted until it is harvested, the operations of the Corporation during a fiscal year consist of completing 1 year's business and beginning another. Consequently, during the fiscal year covered by this report, losses were adjusted on the 1946 crop, new business was written, and all contracts in force were serviced through June 30 of the 1947 growing season.

WHEAT-CROP INSURANCE

Wheat-crop insurance provided a guaranteed yield in any one of several amounts depending on the needs and desires of the farmer. Two basic levels of coverage offered a maximum protection of 50 percent and 75 percent of the average yield per acre for the farm. A partial-insurance feature was also provided, under which a farmer could obtain a part of the protection afforded in either of the two basic coverages. The amount of protection was arranged in progressive stages resulting in protection to the farmer which paralleled his investment in the crop. Thus, on wheat acreage destroyed and seeded to a substitute crop after a release of the acreage by the Corporation, the maximum indemnity payable was 50 percent of the coverage. On any other insured wheat which was not harvested, the maximum amount of indemnity, with a few exceptions, was 80 percent of the coverage. The full coverage applied only to harvested acreage.

Both coverages and premiums were stated in bushels of wheat but for payment purposes the premiums and indemnities were converted to dollars. The conversion price used for computing the dollar amount of the premium was generally the price of wheat per bushel

on the day the premium was due, normally about harvest time. The conversion price for indemnities was generally the price per bushel for the day the settlement was made. The contract provided all-risk insurance against unavoidable causes and generally included the period from the time the wheat was seeded till it was threshed. The contract was written on a 3-year basis, which prevented a producer from insuring in years when crop prospects were good and not insuring when prospects were poor. The contract covered all the wheat seeded by the insured in the county, which prevented the insurance only of specific farms on which the probability of loss may have been greater. An assignment of the contract as collateral could be made by the

Since Federal wheat-crop insurance was against loss of yield, it was necessary to establish farm-average yields. Such yields were for a representative period of years and have been based on actual acreage and production records where such records were available. Where records of the actual acreage and production were not available the average yield has been appraised, based on the actual yield for a similar farm. In recent years, farm yield data have not been obtained, which further reduced the value of the individual farm yield data. In addition, the operation of establishing individual farm yields has been quite costly. Consequently, there has been a trend toward establishing farm yields by grouping farms of like productivity where wheat was grown under the same conditions. This has led to the "area plan" of insurance which was adopted during 1947 in a few counties in the spring-wheat States. Under this plan a county was mapped and all land of similar productivity constituted an area. Every farm in each area had the same coverage and the same premium rate. It is not yet known what the experience will be under this plan but it is expected that the area plan will be expanded because of the inadequacy of farm yield data for individual farms.

For 1946 there were 305,428 wheat contracts in force. The loss experience on these contracts was favorable, partly because of generally good growing weather and crop conditions. Premiums amounted to 9,226,361 bushels of wheat while indemnities of 5,362,433 bushels were paid to farmers, leaving a surplus of 3,858,928 bushels. The losses amounted to 58 percent of the premiums. This insurance experience is shown in table 1 by States and table 6 for the United States.

Crop insurance losses are not always low when over-all crop conditions are good, and high when over-all conditions are poor. Uniformity of crop production is an important factor influencing the amount Even in good crop years, losses in isolated areas often take heavy tolls, such as those caused in 1946 by Hessian fly damage to

wheat in a few of the Midwestern States.

On the 1947 wheat crop there were 360,408 wheat contracts in force in 1,509 counties, which was approximately an 18 percent increase This included a large number of 3-year contracts carried over from the last 2 years. During 1947, the increase in participation was quite general and did not materially change the pattern of distribution from prior years. However, several States including North Dakota, Montana, Minnesota, Idaho, Colorado, Texas, Indiana, and Ohio showed significant increases.

Table 1.—Wheat crop insurance experience, by States, 1945 1-47

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	2400				Crop pl	Crop planted and premium earned	m earned			
State and crop year	in force 2	Con- tracts 2	Farms 2	Indem- nities	Insured	Insured pro- duction	Premiums	Indemnities	Surplus or deficit	Loss
Arizona: 1945 1946	$\begin{array}{c c} Number & Num \\ \hline 18 & 50 \\ \hline 71 & 71 \\ \end{array}$	mber 14 37	Number No 45	Number 10 32	Acres 748 1, 648	Bushels 5, 125 18, 184	Bushets 504 1, 841	Bushels 952 7, 789	Bushels — 448 — 5, 948	1.89
California: 1946	1, 393 1, 646	1, 031	1,871	454	220, 654	2, 212, 824	222, 275	283, 627	-61, 352	1. 28
Colorado: 1945	2, 710 4, 258	1, 909	3, 112	36	2, 435 204, 830	33, 590 1, 657, 964	3, 432 335, 196	2, 829 252, 700	603 82, 496	. 75
Delaware: 1946		420	475	52	11, 777	132, 433	5, 907	3, 221	2, 686	. 55
Georgia: 1947	293		1	1						
Idaho: 1945	306 2, 092 3, 763	1,837	349 2, 968	230	19, 237	2, 298, 718	16, 421 158, 818	10, 333 42, 175	6,088	. 63
Illinois: 1946	35, 887 39, 119	21, 054	26, 088	8, 536	547, 282	4, 924, 048	494, 407	591, 217	-96, 810	1. 20
Indiana: 1946 1947	35, 144 39, 493	26, 851	32, 261	2,011	459, 109	5, 091, 174	421, 107	89, 403	331, 704	. 21
Iowa: 1945 1946 1946	31 6, 378 7, 332	3, 519	4, 186	506	494	1, 123, 018	697 176, 146	60, 912	115, 234	. 35
							-			

		1	FEDER	AL CRO	P IN	SURAN	CE CO	RPORAT	ION	
. 47	1.80	. 95	. 44	. 30	. 85	1.08	. 20	1.56	. 41	2, 55
599, 193	-16, 398	3, 303	154, 268	87, 536 112, 567	80, 280	-15, 326 85, 726	704, 070	445 — 545	4, 334	-51, 867
540, 433	36, 970	61, 757	119, 390	37, 538 88, 242	467, 407	197, 784 888, 076	173, 501	460 1, 523	3,059	85, 308
1, 139, 626	20, 572	65, 060	273, 658	125, 074 200, 809	547, 687	182, 458 973, 802	877, 571	905 978	7, 393	33, 441
9, 423, 901	320, 614	1, 423, 650	4, 955, 979	1, 139, 976 1, 947, 193	4, 088, 052	899, 444 6, 064, 351	5, 784, 488	7, 987 9, 548	156, 784	128, 135
1, 246, 940	31, 077	111, 602	319, 126	143, 580 245, 272	476, 545	113, 779 580, 258	676, 294	392 450	9, 311	19, 472
5, 153	550	867	2, 967	1, 523	5,867	590 2, 084	2, 302	10	36	479
27, 470	1,815	4, 657	30, 191	4, 784 9, 040	19, 692	1, 406 5, 827	20, 731	32	575	567
18, 297	1, 685	3, 957	26, 020	3, 995 7, 600	16, 025	614 2, 184	14, 772	30	517	500
22, 170 24, 770									607 840	714
Kansas: 1946	Kentucky: 1946_ 1947	Maryland: 1946	Michigan: 1946	Minnesota: 1945	Missouri: 1946	Montana: 1945	Nebraska: 19461947	Nevada: 1945 1946 1946	New Jersey: 1946	New Mexico: 1946

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1.—Wheat crop insurance experience, by States, 1945 1-47—Continued

[As of June 30, 1947]

	Contracts				Crop pl	Crop planted and premium earned	ım earned			
State and crop year	in force 2	Con- tracts 2	Farms 2	Indem- nities	Insured	Insured pro- duction	Premiums	Indemnities	Surplus or defieit	Loss
New York: 1946 1947	Number 4, 287 5, 499	Number 2, 705	Number 3, 110	Number 621	Acres 31, 920	Bushels 490, 156	Bushets 33, 095	Bushels 34, 533	Bushels — 1, 438	1.04
North Carolina: 1946	3, 404 3, 951	2,615	2, 997	123	26, 170	391, 059	10, 175	3,619	6, 556	.36
North Dakota; 1945	4, 842 6, 182 11, 260	4, 562 5, 834	7, 693	309	560, 731	3, 417, 289 5, 037, 798	455, 055 672, 135	50, 229	404, 826 553, 345	. 18
Ohio: 1946. 1947.	35, 579 39, 603	28, 766	35, 108	1, 570	463, 962	5, 819, 547	388, 840	65, 308	323, 532	.17
Oklahoma: 1946 1947	7, 463	6, 572	9, 794	2,604	739, 637	4, 802, 651	498, 733	494, 546	4, 187	96.
Oregon: 1945	1, 482 1, 847	1, 166	1,808	25 198	3, 872 204, 139	75, 612 2, 574, 846	4,046	12, 939	8, 893 107, 989	3. 20
Pennsylvania: 1946 1947		9, 193	10, 620	714	126, 887	1, 654, 644	102, 111	37, 517	64, 594	.37
South Dakota: 1945	2, 916 5, 121 6, 437	2, 655 4, 411	4, 290 7, 349	424	220, 175	1, 206, 518 2, 542, 718	267, 055 573, 563	88, 908 129, 989	178, 147	. 23
Tennessee: 1946	2, 496 5, 419	1, 369	1, 481	412	21, 050	164, 280	10, 127	13, 724	-3, 597	1.36

		FE	DERAL	CROP	INSUR	ANCE CO	RPORATIO)
1.05	. 95	. 49	2. 92 . 26	. 44	. 50	1. 03	. 58	
-20, 211	1, 506 4, 614	15, 353	-42, 988 134, 477	5, 939	377	50,055	612, 208	
453, 625	387 91, 918	14, 935	65, 340 46, 495	4, 754	749 10, 260	2,892 6,442	471, 616 5, 367, 433	
433, 414	1, 893 96, 532	30, 288	22, 352 180, 972	10, 693	1, 126 20, 635	2,806	1, 083, 824 9, 226, 361	
2, 304, 640	26, 273 1, 114, 436	656, 490	941, 967 4, 188, 609	187, 637	9, 333 199, 528	13, 632 269, 521	8, 042, 204 84, 159, 618	
360, 073	1, 656 88, 871	56, 416	29, 144 373, 590	17, 573	818 16, 163	1, 576 29, 795	1, 098, 637 9, 223, 833	
1,648	527	308	163 136	138	11 320	12 23	2, 207 45, 382	
4,058	2, 978	3, 989	392 2, 353	1, 230	130 2, 909	35	19, 494 292, 050	
3, 055	$\frac{100}{2,384}$	3, 600	$\frac{260}{1,218}$	1, 117	2,830	173	12, 836 225, 246	
3, 741							14, 390 305, 428 360, 408	
Texas: 1946	Utah: 1945 1946 1947	Virginia: 1946- 1947-	Washington: 1945	West Virginia: 1946- 1947	Wsconsin: 1945 1946 1947	Wyoming: 1945	U. S. Totals: 1945	

² The number of farms is larger than the number of contracts because a farmer's contract generally includes all the farms in which he has an insurable interest in the county. The figure representing number of farms includes duplication where both landlord and tenant are insured. The number of contracts on which a premium is earned is usually less than the number of contracts in force because farmers in some years do not plant any acreage of the commodity on which they have insurance. ¹ The figures shown for 1945 include only spring wheat, since no winter wheat for harvest in 1945 was insured.

Of all the wheat farms in the United States, 29 percent were insured in 1947, compared with 24 percent in 1946. While most of the contracts were located east of the Plains States, most of the insured wheat acreage was located in the Plains States and States west thereof, as a result of the larger wheat acreage per farm in those areas. The location of the insured wheat acreage is shown in figure 1.

At this writing, the settlement of loss claims has not progressed sufficiently to provide the basis for an accurate estimate of the 1947 losses. Early indications, however, lead us to believe that the losses will again be substantially less than the premiums. The wheat

premiums for this year are approximately 10,000,000 bushels.

As pointed out earlier in this report, during the first years of the program the wheat indemnities exceeded the premium collections. In 1945, however, only 44 percent of the premiums were needed to settle indemnities, whereas in 1946 only 58 percent of the premiums were needed. If 1947 expectations are borne out, this will be the third consecutive year in which wheat reserves will be accumulated, indicating that the wheat program is on a relatively sound basis.

COTTON-CROP INSURANCE

Cotton-crop insurance provided producers with protection against loss of yield of lint cotton due to unavoidable causes. Protection against loss of cottonseed could also be obtained at the option of the producer by increasing the premium and the indemnity by 20 percent. Both the amount of protection and the premium rate were expressed in pounds of cotton. However, the premium was later converted to dollars for payment purposes. The premium rate was generally a flat rate established for the county or area with a higher rate for farms where the possibility of loss was greater than the average for the county.

The insured could select any one of several levels of coverage against loss in yield of lint cotton. Under any level of coverage the protection was relatively low in the early stages of production and increased as the season progressed and additional costs were incurred. In general, the loss, if any, was the amount of coverage less any production either harvested or unharvested. In cotton a continuous contract was executed which remained in force indefinitely until canceled by either the insured or the Corporation. Assignment against the contract

could be made as collateral for a loan.

The crop year 1946 was one of heavy losses on cotton. Indemnities totaling 149,403,645 pounds of cotton were paid while premiums of 43,246,125 pounds were collected. Thus the losses amounted to 345 percent of the premiums. Although this resulted in helping the cotton farmers, the financial impact on the Corporation was severe. As pointed out earlier in this report, the cotton indemnities exhausted not only the premiums but also the paid-in capital. It was therefore necessary to suspend payment of the 1946 cotton indemnities until funds were appropriated by Congress for additional capital. Payments were suspended for a 65-day period beginning in March 1947. The loss experience on cotton by States is shown in table 2 while the

The loss experience on cotton by States is shown in table 2 while the United States summary is shown in table 6. The location of the 1946 cotton losses is shown in figure 2. The primary causes of loss were poor growing weather and crop conditions which resulted in the

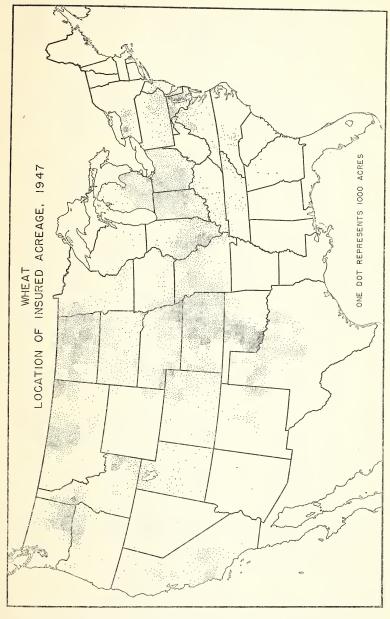


FIGURE 1.—Location and general distribution of insured wheat acreage in 1947.

Table 2.—Cotton crop insurance experience, by States, 1945-47 [As of June 30, 1947]

					0	Crop planted and premium earned	emium earned			
State and crop year	Contracts	Contracts 1	Farms 1	Indemni- ties	Insured acreage 2	Insured production ³	Premiums	Indemnities	Surplus or deficit	Loss
Alabama: 19451946	Number 10, 312 12, 823 15, 527	Number 10, 003 12, 368	Number 11, 065 13, 700	Number 1, 548 6, 374	Acres 123, 513 144, 529	Pounds 14, 802, 569 19, 655, 235	Powads 662, 107 1, 391, 656	Pounds 607, 673 3, 621, 587	Pounds 54, 434 -2, 229, 931	0. 92 2. 60
Arizona: 1945 1946	288 347 309	275	643	224	75, 590 97, 742	21, 383, 015 31, 995, 804	716, 656	2, 682, 537 629, 198	-1, 965, 881 883, 386	3.74
Arkansas: 1945 1946	5, 112 6, 211 8, 336	4, 562 5, 832	5, 722 7, 296	2, 642 3, 647	118, 099	17, 898, 733 27, 809, 947	1, 150, 687 1, 981, 097	4, 117, 520 6, 980, 351	-2, 966, 833 -4, 999, 254	3. 58
California: 1945 1946	530 890	39	50 730	$\frac{9}{204}$	2, 881 53, 428	1, 279, 757 21, 239, 354	36, 704 938, 173	43, 247 2, 144, 855	$\begin{array}{c} -6,543 \\ -1,206,682 \end{array}$	1. 18
Florida: 1945 1946	213 140 349	207	215 134	38	981	88, 873 45, 743	6, 351 3, 255	$\frac{3,189}{4,090}$	3, 162 —835	1. 26
Georgia: 1945 1946	6, 165 11, 111 11, 922	5, 922 10, 101	6, 607	1, 825 4, 155	92, 071 143, 912	14, 472, 796 18, 583, 664	750, 577 1, 187, 481	1, 037, 470 2, 665, 858	-286,893 $-1,478,377$	1. 38
Illinois: 1945 1946 1947	268 241 263	231 218	310	247	2, 649 2, 635	478, 768 469, 649	22, 607 37, 667	175, 428 143, 581	—152, 821 —105, 914	7. 76

See footnotes at end of table.

		FEDER	AL CRO	P INSU	RANCE	CORPO	RATION	•
3.18	4. 03	1. 77 7. 09	13, 31	2, 89	1. 20	3.44	. 77	3, 52
	2, 285, 096 8, 294, 296	-668, 042 -12, 197, 532	-7, 469, 345 -2, 574, 922	-1,832,171 $-1,371,324$	41 , 557 -84 , 667	-5, 266, 173 -4, 115, 925	206, 430 371, 344	-731, 249 197, 635
65, 037 91, 558	3, 039, 477 10, 016, 446	1, 536, 405 14, 201, 570	8, 076, 171 3, 912, 013	2, 801, 998 2, 234, 828	188, 950 508, 230	7, 428, 754 7, 647, 551	681, 070 888, 024	1, 021, 779
20, 439 36, 990	754, 381 1, 722, 150	868, 363 2, 004, 038	606, 826 1, 337, 091	969, 827 863, 504	230, 507 423, 563	2, 162, 581 3, 531, 626	887, 500 1, 259, 368	290, 530 693, 012
275, 510 587, 077	15, 951, 080 24, 012, 500	22, 521, 670 36, 947, 693	18, 223, 237 31, 257, 167	20, 000, 394 17, 745, 412	5, 918, 284 7, 499, 755	24, 163, 407 24, 716, 780	18, 031, 209 18, 382, 138	3, 996, 696 11, 713, 587
$\frac{1}{2}$, 286 $\frac{2}{6}$, 670	81, 937 124, 783	118, 547 173, 364	114, 345 186, 660	59, 475 58, 925	31, 286 44, 242	302, 991 293, 672	113, 535 114, 087	18, 023 56, 147
50	1, 602 5, 022	1, 197 5, 890	3, 646 2, 035	774	1, 165	8, 619 6, 823	866	531 613
80 149	3, 016 5, 703	6, 956 8, 453	5, 514	1,854	4, 332 6, 111	14, 851 10, 590	8, 067 8, 728	1, 257 3, 697
66 140	2, 661 5, 088	6, 555 7, 788	4, 021	1, 217 1, 227	3, 587 5, 083	11, 253 8, 252	7, 001 7, 647	3, 110
81 174 131	2, 814 5, 393 11, 801		4, 297 3, 438 1, 150	1, 296 1, 306 949	3, 655 5, 470 3, 548	, 767 10, 243 5, 944		984 3, 458 2, 669
	Louisiana: 1945. 1946.		Missouri: 1945 1946	New Mexico: 1945 1946	North Carolina: 19451946	Oklahoma: 1945 1946	South Carolina: 1945 1946	Tennessee: 1945 1946

See footnotes at end of table.

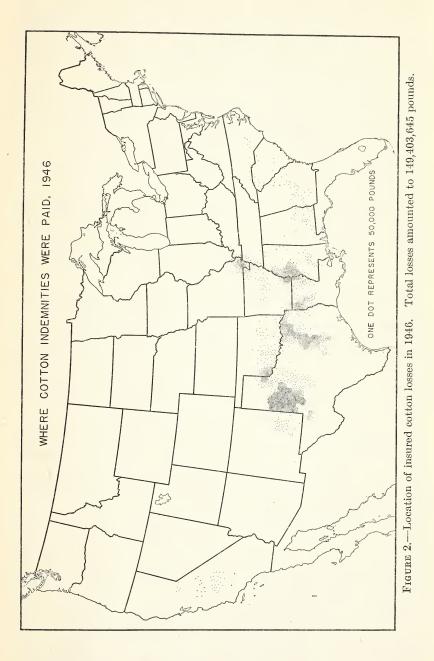
Table 2.—Cotton crop insurance experience, by States, 1945-47—Continued

[As of June 30, 1947]

	Loss	3. 52	. 36	3. 42
	Surplus or deficit	Pounds -30, 722, 837 -68, 913, 703	2, 740 18, 045	54, 090, 159 106, 157, 520
	Indemnities	Pounds 42, 904, 718 93, 208, 423	7, 082 10, 105	76, 418, 505 149, 403, 645
remium earned	Premiums	Pounds 12, 181, 881 24, 294, 720	9, 822 28, 150	22, 328, 346 43, 246, 125
Crop planted and premium earned	Insured production 3	Pounds 183, 553, 051 234, 391, 534	194, 596 347, 282	382, 233, 645 527, 400, 321
0	Insured acreage ²	Number Acres 24, 036 1, 791, 283 34, 885 2, 617, 237	1, 413 2, 049	385 3, 049, 905 975 4, 306, 145
	Indemni- ties	Number 24, 036 34, 885	24 41	48, 385
	Farms 1	Number 43, 063 47, 592	247 505	113, 849 131, 582
	Contracts 1	Number 31, 227 34, 975	195 426	89, 979 106, 313
	Contracts in force ¹	Number 33, 915 37, 077 27, 615	, 209 446 166	96, 231 114, 270 122, 212
	State and crop year	Texas: 1945	Virginia: 1945 1946	U. S. totals: 19451 19461 19471

he has an insurable interest in the county. The figure representing number of farms includes duplication where both landlord and tenant are insured. The number of contracts on which a premium is earned is usually less than the number of contracts in force because farmers ¹ The number of farms is larger than the number of contracts because a farmer's contract generally includes all the farms in which he has an insurable interest in the county. The figure representing number of farms includes duplication where both landlord and tenant in some years do not plant any acreage of cotton.

All figures are for lint cotton only. Total liability of the Corporation also includes cottonseed ³ Figures for 1946 are estimated. ² Figures for 1946 are estimated. production, when insured.



lowest average yield per acre since the last drought year of 1936. It will be observed from figure 2 that the heavy losses occurred in three major cotton producing areas. One of these areas was the Plains area of Texas, where the principal cause of loss was drought. The two other areas were eastern Texas and the Mississippi River Delta area in which the outstanding causes of loss were excessive rains, flood, and boll-weevil infestation.

A secondary factor contributing to the heavy cotton losses was the provisions of the insurance contract. Although the 1946 cotton crop insurance contract was much more conservative than in earlier years, it is now apparent that the improvements in this direction were not sufficient to place cotton insurance on a sound operating basis.

It became evident in 1946 that the coverage in the earlier stages of production was high enough to provide a profit. Such a situation, combined with adverse weather conditions, frequently made it more profitable to have a crop loss than to produce a crop. This was particularly true in areas where another crop could be planted on destroyed cotton acreage after the Corporation had settled the loss. It also became evident in 1946 that the final date for filing applications for insurance was late enough that producers in some areas had a reasonably accurate indication of the prospects of producing a normal crop. Under such conditions, a relatively large number of producers applied for insurance in areas where prospects were poor.

In 1947 added emphasis was placed on changes in the program which would place cotton insurance on a sounder operating basis. One of the more important changes was the further lowering of the coverage for the early stages of production. For example, a farm with an average yield of 250 pounds per acre now has a coverage of 47 pounds for the earliest stage of production, whereas the corresponding coverage for 1946 was 75 pounds. Likewise the coverage was lowered for other stages up to harvesttime. For harvested acreage the 1947 protection was increased somewhat. This provided an incentive for farmers to

carry the crop through to completion of the harvest.

The second change was the establishment of earlier closing dates for the filing of applications for insurance. These closing dates have been advanced substantially in all areas where the prospects of producing a crop are indicated early in the season and to a lesser extent in all other areas. Advancing of the closing dates had the effect of reducing adverse selectivity by requiring producers to decide well ahead of

planting time whether or not they would insure their crop.

A third change was a general increase in premium rates under the 1947 program. These increases in part reflect past loss experience and should contribute to a more favorable balance over the entire Cotton Belt between premium collections and indemnity payments. Another change was the classification of farms with about the same productivity into groups with each group having the same amount of protection. Still another change concerned the price which was used to establish the monetary amount of premiums and indemnities. In prior years, the monetary amount of premiums was based on the market price for the day the premium was due while the monetary amount of indemnities was based on the market price when the loss was paid. For 1947, however, a single fixed price was used to establish the monetary amount of both premiums and indemnities. This price was

based on 90 percent of the net average price per pound for the month

of July on the 10 spot cotton markets.

These changes which were designed to place cotton insurance on a sounder basis had little effect on the producer's acceptance of the contract. In 1947 cotton-insurance contracts in force numbered 122,212, an increase of approximately 7 percent over the past year. These contracts represented crop-insurance protection on over eleven percent of the cotton farms and total premiums of approximately

52,000,000 pounds.

A more even distribution of participation was evident this year. Although the number of contracts in Texas and Oklahoma showed a substantial decrease, sizable increases were recorded in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama. The relatively low participation in the cotton program can be attributed to a number of factors. Cotton producers as a whole are not as insurance-minded as producers of many other commodities. The delay in settlement of 1946 cotton indemnities due to a temporary shortage of funds reduced sales sharply in many States. The cotton program also is a newer program and the sales effort has been neither as vigorous nor as effective as that for other commodities. The location of the insured cotton acreage is shown in figure 3, page 22.

A number of factors combined make it possible to view the 1947 cotton program with more optimism. One is that the growing season this year has been more favorable, which has resulted in only 22,000 acres of cotton being released up to the time of harvest as compared with over 1,000,000 acres in 1946. A second factor is a better distribution of participation this year, combined with a more conserva-

tive contract.

FLAX-CROP INSURANCE

Flax-crop insurance was written on the basis of an annual contract. The insurance was against loss of yield of flaxseed; flax fiber was not insured. Both the amount of coverage and the premium rate were expressed in bushels but the premium was later converted to dollars for purposes of payment. The farmer had a choice of coverage, which was either 50 percent or 75 percent of the farm average yield. As in other commodities the protection increased as the crop progressed. On any acreage of flax destroyed and seeded to a substitute crop after a release of acreage by the Corporation, the maximum protection was one-half of the full coverage for such acreage. On any other insured acreage of flax not harvested, the maximum protection was 80 percent of the full coverage. For any acreage harvested, the full coverage applied.

The flax contract provided all-risk crop insurance against unavoidable causes and included the period from the time the flax was seeded till it was threshed. Settlements of loss were made in the form of certificates of indemnity which could be converted to cash by the insured producer. An assignment could be made by the insured

against his right to an indemnity under the contract.

During 1946 there were 10,412 flax-insurance contracts in force. The total premiums amounted to 173,132 bushels, while indemnities of 183,918 bushels were paid on loss claims. Thus, on a commodity basis, the losses equalled 106 percent of the premiums. The losses

Table 3.—Flax crop insurance experience, by States, 1945-47
[As of June 30, 1947]

		;			Crop plan	Crop planted and premium earned	ım earned			
State and erop year	Contracts in force ¹	Contracts 1	Farms 1	Indemnities	Insured	Insured pro- duction	Premiums	Premiums Indemnities	Surplus or defieit	Loss
California: 1946	Number 54 16	Number 50	Number 86	Number 9	Acres 6, 779	Bushels 100, 791	Bushels 7, 990	Bushels 3, 774	Bushels 4, 216	0.47
Iowa: 1945- 1946-	1, 639 96 108	1, 423	1, 481	116	20, 591	143, 483 8, 866	23, 861 1, 083	3, 091	20, 770 1, 051	. 03
Kansas: 1945. 1946.	2, 681 1, 224 1, 183	1, 812 1, 102	2, 439	1, 296	37, 903 22, 563	153, 726 93, 140	22, 495 13, 660	39, 792 13, 207	-17, 297	1.77
Michigan: 1945- 1946- 1947-		214	247	159	3, 075 2, 222	19, 924 15, 208	2, 078 1, 544	5, 359	-3,281 202	2. 58
Minnesota: 1945- 1946- 1947-	20, 536 7, 239 24, 890	17, 648 6, 220	21, 010 7, 521	4, 286 2, 468	496, 015 184, 776	2, 626, 431 954, 826	321, 361 120, 703	182, 938 137, 123	138, 423 -16, 420	1.14
Missouri: 1945- 1946- 1947-		263	315	188	5, 747	21, 807 3, 540	4, 630	5, 273	643 492	1.14
Montana: 1945- 1946	203 47 744	182	298	212 34	16, 043	42, 144 4, 863	10, 800	18, 558 2, 499	-7, 758 -1, 330	2. 14

. 43	76.		00	3. 02	1.06
$\begin{vmatrix} 34,409 \\ -1,772 \end{vmatrix}$	11	35, 344 1, 956	314	-1, 660 41	198, 307
26, 088 16, 470	338	5, 189	0	2, 481	288, 769
60, 497 14, 698	349	40, 533	314	821 248	487, 076 173, 132
443, 037 97, 799	2, 446	211, 937 56, 356	1, 531	8, 088	3, 670, 577 1, 341, 044
131, 008 39, 465	724	57, 581 15, 340	366	1, 179	789, 142 277, 030
535	က	122 209	0	22 9	6, 936 3, 513
3, 794 909	23	2, 147	9	23	31, 789
2, 799	19	1,639	ъ	23	26, 036 8, 832
3, 432 957 6, 216		1, 816 522 2, 073		104 31 59	31, 131 10, 412 35, 613
North Dakota: 1945	Oklahoma: 1946_ 1947	South Dakota: 1945 1946	Texas: 1946 1947	Wisconsin: 1945 1946 1947	U. S. totals: 1945

¹ The number of farms is larger than the number of contracts because a farmer's contract generally includes all the farms in which he has an insurable interest in the county. The figure representing number of farms includes duplication where both landlord and tenant are insured. The number of contracts on which a premium is earned is usually less than the number of contracts in force because farmers in some years do not plant any acreage of the commodity on which they have insurance.

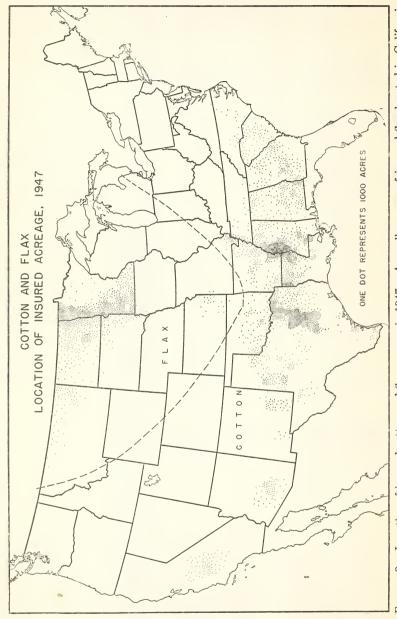


FIGURE 3.—Location of insured cotton and flax acreage in 1947. A small acreage of insured flax located in California and Texas is not included in this figure.

were mainly due to abandonment of acreage caused by damaging freezes and also to many spot losses. The year 1946 was the second year of insurance on flax. The losses for 1945 were 59 percent of the premiums. For the 2 years combined there was a premium balance

of 28 percent of the total premium bushels.

The 1946 flax insurance experience is shown in table 3 by States and in table 6 for the United States. It will be noted from table 6 that these losses were relatively higher on a monetary basis than a commodity basis. This was due to a sharp increase in the market price of flax between the time the premiums in bushels were converted to dollars and the time the dollar value of indemnities was established. This price increase was due to removal of the price ceiling applicable to flaxseed and the critical shortage of flax which existed at that time. Ordinarily losses due to price changes occurring between the time premiums are converted to dollars and the time the amount of the indemnity is established are avoided by purchasing a quantity of the commodity at the time the premiums become due and selling the commodity as indemnities are paid. This operation preserves generally the same relationship in dollars as in commodity units. However, the critical shortage of flax in 1946 made it impossible for the Corporation to buy flaxseed for this operation. This resulted in a loss in dollars not caused from insurance operations but from price rise solely.

In 1947 there were 35,613 flax insurance contracts in force. This was a substantial increase over the amount of flax insurance for 1946 and a moderate increase over 1945. The amount of flax insurance in these 3 years has shown a rather close relationship with the total flax acreage seeded and the general interest of farmers in the crop. In 1945, when over 31,000 contracts were in force, there was considerable emphasis by the Government, including an incentive payment of \$5 per acre, on expanding the flax acreage for war needs. In the absence of the incentive payments for 1946, the total flax acreage seeded and the amount of insurance in force both declined materially. However, with renewed interest in flax for 1947, due to a much higher price, the total acreage seeded and the amount of insurance in force have both increased again. An intensive sales campaign in 1947 was

also a factor in the increased number of flax contracts.

The number of flax contracts in force for 1947 is shown in table 3 by States and table 6 for the United States. The location of the insured flax acreage is shown in figure 3. The total premiums on this business was approximately 691,000 bushels. At this time the amount of losses on the 1947 crop is not known, but based on weather and crop conditions to date and estimates made by the Corporation's field organization, it is expected that the loss experience will be

better than for 1946.

EXPERIMENTAL CROP INSURANCE

The history of all insurance, whether it be property, life or any other kind, contains many stories of success and failure. A great deal of the refinement in the insurance business today can be attributed to years of experience—years in which the more successful institutions have benefited not only from their own experience but also from the bitter

experience of their predecessors. The trial-and-error method has played a big part in the development of insurance as it is today. Crop insurance is no exception, other than it contains more complex

problems than other types of insurance.

The approach to crop insurance on a Nation-wide basis through experimentation in a few representative counties and a gradual expansion is proving to be sound and practical. The contingent liability assumed in the early stages is relatively small when compared with that assumed on commodities insured on a national basis, and early errors can be corrected at a minimum of expense. The acceptability of the insurance plans tried can also be tested and changes made which will make the contracts more desirable from the producer's standpoint.

Congress apparently recognized the foregoing when it provided in 1944 for experimental insurance on a limited scale. Under this provision, insurance on corn and tobacco has been tried in a few counties beginning with the 1945 crop year. This short period has borne out the advantages of the experimental approach in developing crop insurance. Many lessons have been learned and much information secured which could never have been obtained through research and study alone. The cost of this development has been small. In fact the total premiums on corn and tobacco substantially exceeded the indemnities at the end of the 1946 crop year. At this writing, an accurate estimate of the results of 1947 operations cannot be made.

Prior to the recent amendment to the Federal Crop Insurance Act, legislation limited experimental insurance on each commodity to a period of 3 years and to 20 counties. The amendment removed the 3-year limitation. As pointed out earlier in this report, it also increased the number of counties beginning in 1948. This increase

is to 35 in the case of tobacco and 50 in corn.

TOBACCO EXPERIENCE

Crop insurance on tobacco was first tried in 13 counties in 1945 and the following year expanded to 19 counties. The program was continued in all 19 counties in 1947. The counties were selected as representative of the different producing areas and were located as follows: 7 in the Flue-cured Belt, 8 in the Burley Belt, 1 in the Maryland Belt, and 3 in the several cigar-tobacco-producing districts. Insurance on dark air-cured tobacco was offered, in addition to burley insurance, in one of the counties in the Burley Belt, while fire-cured

tobacco insurance was offered in another.

Two plans of tobacco-crop insurance have been tried. One was known as yield-quality insurance and the other as investment insurance. The yield-quality plan differed from the yield plan used in wheat, cotton, and flax in that it provided for insurance of quality as well as yield. The quality feature was included in tobacco because of the important effect of this factor on the income from the crop. The protection offered under this plan was a dollar amount determined at the end of the season. It was based on not to exceed 75 percent of the long-time average yield for the farm and a representative price for tobacco in the year of insurance, as adjusted upward or downward to reflect the experience on the farm over a period of years in selling tobacco at prices above or below the market average. The loss, if

any, was determined at the end of the crop year. The yield-quality plan of insurance was very popular with producers, comprising approx-

imately 85 percent of all tobacco insurance sold.

The coverage under the investment plan of insurance was also stated in dollars and could not exceed 75 percent of the investment in the crop. Under present costs and prices the investment type of insurance represented about two-thirds of the coverage which could be secured through the yield-quality type. Only about 15 percent of the insured tobacco producers selected this plan.

The tobacco-crop insurance program has been rather well accepted by producers. There were 14,676 contracts written in the 19 counties in 1947, a 6 percent increase above the 13,842 contracts in force in the same counties in 1946. These contracts in 1947 represented 33 per-

cent of the farms producing tobacco in these counties.

Good weather and favorable crop conditions in 1946 resulted in favorable loss experience under the tobacco insurance contracts. This was the second year of favorable experience in tobacco insurance and for the 2 years, 1945 and 1946 combined, the losses amounted to only 46 percent of the premiums. However, as a result of the late marketing in three of the counties, final settlement of all 1946 indemnities had not been made at the end of the 1947 fiscal year. It is expected that, on the basis of information now available, the losses for the 2-year period, 1945 and 1946, will equal approximately one-half of the premiums. The details of this experience are shown in table 4 for individual counties and in table 6 for the 19 counties combined.

The tobacco loss experience has been more favorable on investment insurance than on yield-quality insurance. This does not indicate that the investment plan is a sounder plan of insurance. Investment insurance, being a more conservative lower coverage contract, should show less loss in good crop years such as 1945 and 1946, because the

production on more farms will generally exceed the coverage.

The short period of trial insurance on tobacco is too brief to be conclusive. However, the general acceptance of the program by tobacco growers, combined with the satisfactory manner in which the program has operated, and the fact that to date premiums have substantially exceeded indemnities, indicate that tobacco insurance has developed rather successfully. Apparently Congress recognized this indication in providing for an expansion of tobacco insurance to additional counties beginning in 1948.

CORN EXPERIENCE

Corn-crop insurance was offered on a trial basis in 1945 in 15 counties and expanded to 19 counties in 1946. It was available in the same 19 counties in 1947. The counties selected were representative of the various producing areas. In the selection of counties, consideration was given to the types of farming practices followed, acres devoted to the commodity and the importance of corn to individual farmers in relation to other commodities grown, size of the farms, variation in the production risks, types of soil, and the indicated interest of growers in crop insurance. The geographical location of the trial corn counties during 1946 and 1947 was: 14 counties spread throughout the Corn Belt, 2 in the Eastern States, and 3 in the Southern States.

Table 4.—Tobacco trial crop insurance experience, by counties, 1945-47

[As of June 30, 1947] Yield-Quality Insurance

				T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T	THEFT COUNTY THEOLOGICAL	TINGOI	PAINCE					
	Gron	Type of tobacco	Con-				Cro	p planted and	Crop planted and promium carned	ps		
State and county	year		tracts in force 1	Con- tracts 1	Farms 1	Indem- nities	Insured acreage ²	Insured Insured pro- acreage ² duction ²	Premiums	Indemnities	Surplus or deficit	Loss
Georgia: Cook	1945 1946 1947	Flue-cured	Number 314 101 174	Number 312 92	Number 337 126	Number 38 28	Acres 1, 197	Pounds 817, 497	20, 130, 13 5, 624, 79	Dollars 10, 857. 97 9, 012. 03	Dollars 9, 272. 16 -3, 387. 24	0.54
North Carolina: Surry	1945 1946 1946	op	1, 169	1, 144	1, 256 525	14	6, 012	6, 012 2, 634, 856	53, 177. 38 22, 909. 50	3, 336, 99 4, 494, 41	49, 840. 39 18, 415. 09	. 20
Vance	1945 1946 1947	op	200 200 3120 3130	523	23	1 2	94	72, 113	1, 348. 59 28, 641. 44	93.04	1, 255. 55 28, 333. 52	.07
Wilson	1945	op	800 1, 714	$\frac{800}{1,507}$	853 2, 257	36	6, 024	6, 024 2, 737, 087	64, 160. 83 120, 061. 43	9, 741. 2, 486.	05 54, 419. 78 65 117, 574. 78	$\frac{15}{02}$
South Carolina: Marrion.	1945, 1946, 1947	0 do	1, 792 353 377 396	351	386	8 14	1,694	984, 329	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1, 557. 88 2, 342. 16	23, 118. 81 19, 300. 20	. 111
Virginia: Lunenburg	1945 1946 1946	op op	143 47 90	136	154 62		089	423, 576	10, 907. 65 2, 626. 20	494. 68	10, 412. 97 -3, 638. 99	. 05
Pittsylvania	1945 1946 1946	op	459 260	457	520 350	19 20	1 1	1,8591,059,153	24, 645. 35 12, 310. 80	2, 317. 59 4, 293. 65	22, 327. 76 8, 017. 15	. 35
Indiana: Jefferson	1946 1947	Burleydo	857 274	811	086	119			22, 790. 26	11, 127.30	11, 662. 96	. 49

.36	. 24	90.	1.06	. 20	. 35	. 25	00.	. 26	1.56	1.16	. 83
17, 465. 73 28, 859. 64	5, 886. 25	12, 194. 55	1,467.28	29, 566. 84 2, 693. 43	4, 160. 96 6, 042. 76	15, 857. 69	5, 944. 50	503. 66 107, 034. 57	-95,350.95 90, 129, 43	26,498.38 125, 620. 49	105, 877, 87 593, 620, 32
9, 745. 58 3, 738. 92	11, 381, 91 1, 435, 49	713.17	25, 692. 68	7, 234. 15	13, 094. 30 3, 316. 94	5, 286. 60	0	38, 503. 66 10	212.35 180.12	432.38	499. 87 991. 18
27, 211. 31 32, 598. 56	17, 268. 16 5, 868. 56	12, 907. 72	24, 225. 40	36, 800. 99 3, 150. 50	17, 255. 26 9, 359. 70	21, 144, 29	5, 944. 50	538.	70, 861, 40 266, 10, 309, 55 20,	166, 934. 00 193, 128, 957. 71 3,	35, 377, 74 529, 36, 611, 50 142,
1, 958 1, 177, 408	540, 248			494	621, 207				$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	8, 101 8, 489, 433 1	822 44, 736 33,523,833 635, 752 736,
1	763			2, 060 1, 386,	1, 172	 		1 1	13, 122	1 1	44, 736
28 19	72 23	15	215	96	96	20	0	!	 	640	l,
286 820	454	-1,043	900	1,427 210	619 575	715		405	$\frac{2}{1,880}$	3, 080 2, 512	11, 945 15, 074
257 612	401	517	792	1, 141	517	381	99	371	2, 221 1, 504	2, 765 2, 174	10, 522 11, 9 11, 409 15, 0
258 619	323 323	543	846 400	1, 178 150 826	534 510 637	427	73	380 380 600		2, 845 2, 199 2, 343	11, 001 10, 12, 020 11, 12, 388
op		Dark air-cured and burley.	Burleydo	op		Fire-cured and burley.	Southern Maryland.	Cigar binder	Cigar filler	Cigar binder	
1945	1947 1945 1946 1947	1946	1946	1945 1946 1947	1945 1946 1947	1946	1947	1947 1946 1947	1945	1945 1946 1947	1945 1946 1947
Kentucky: Bourbon	Larue	Simpson	Ohio: Brown	Tennessee: Greene	Maury	Montgomery	Maryland: Charles	Connecticut: Hart-ford.	Pennsylvania: Lan- caster.	Wisconsin: Vernon.	Yield-quality total.

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4.—Tobacco trial crop insurance experience, by counties, 1945-47—Continued [As of June 30, 1947]

INVESTMENT INSURANCE

						2						
	c s	Tares of tohooo	Con-				Crol	planted and	Crop planted and premium earned	q		
State and county	year	insured	tracts in force 1	Con- tracts 1	Farms 1	Indem- nities	Insured acreage 2	Insured pro- duction ²	Premiums	Indemnities	Surplus or deficit	Loss
Georgia: Cook	1946 1947	Flue-cured	$\begin{array}{c} Number\\ 31\\ 150 \end{array}$	Number 29	Number 31	Number 0	Acres	Dollars	Dollars 406.72	Dollars 0	Dollars 406. 72	00.
North Carolma: Surry	1945 1946 1047	op	20 18	17	19	00	08	8,883	561. 53 316. 29	0	561. 53 316. 29	00.
Vance	1945 1946 1946	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	611 254 319	611	742	0	3, 145	462, 566	19, 290. 31 4, 862. 89	163.63	19, 126. 68 4, 862. 89	. 00
Wilson	1945 1946 1947	op	572 75 64 64	572	651 104	0	4, 608	429, 721	11, 622. 00 1, 293. 76	137.07	11, 484, 93 1, 293, 76	.00
Virginia: Lunenburg	1945	op op	151	145 103	234	12	750	101, 491	5, 361. 50 4, 132. 77	124. 77 731. 53	5, 236. 73 3, 401. 24	
Pittsylvania	1947 1945 1946	0p p op o	465 83 480	82 476	103	0	323	46, 105	2, 322. 38	516. 63	2, 322. 38 6, 989. 10	00
Indiana: Jefferson.	1947 1946 1947	Burleydodo	568 173 34	166	186	12			1, 271. 66	753.94	517.72	. 59
Kentucky: Bourbon	1945	do	42	4	46		260	29, 920	929. 20	28. 14		.03
LarueSimpson	1945	Dark air-cured	9 1 1 9	0	9	000	3	228	14. 17 40. 95 22. 90	000	14. 17 40. 95 22. 90	388
	1947	and Duriey.	1	1	1 1		1	1	1	1		1

. 43	000.	00.	. 20	1 1. 1 1 1 1 1 1	00.	00.	000.	. 05	. 18
765. 31	140. 47 301. 22	38. 45	964.79		29, 292, 44	1, 019. 20 1, 583. 34	341.67	41, 175. 60 51, 326. 74	. 48 147, 053. 47 . 59 644, 947. 06
571. 76	00	0	237. 55		0	0	0	453. 61 2, 811. 41	953
1, 337. 07	140. 47 301. 22	38. 45	1, 202. 34		29, 292, 44	1, 019. 20 1, 583. 34	341.67	41, 629. 21 54, 138. 15	677, 006. 95 529, 790, 749. 65 145,
	1, 347				1 1 1 1 1 1	23, 266	10,730	1, 114, 257	
1 1			 	1 1	1	171	76	9, 427	829 54, 163 799
17	00	0	4		0	0	0	47	1, 829
143	9	00	130	1 1	92	113	288	1,879 2,183	13, 824
120	9	4	113	1 1	65	42	26	1, 546	12, 068
133	500	100	113	283	72	103	34 44 165	1, 586 1, 795 2, 288	12, 587 13, 815 14, 676
Burley	op	op	Fire-cured and	Southern Mary-	Cigar binder	Cigar filler	Cigar binder		
1946	1945	1946	1946	1947 1947	1946	1945 1946 1946	1947 1945 1946 1947	1945 1946 1947	1945 1946 1947
Ohio: Brown	Tennessee: Greene	Maury	Montgomery	Maryland: Charles-	Connecticut: Hart-	Pennsylvania: Lancaster.	Wisconsin: Vernon	Investment total.	Total, all to- bacco.

¹ The number of farms is larger than the number of contracts because a farmer's contract generally includes all the farms in which he has an insurable interest in the county. The figure representing number of farms includes duplication where both landlord and tenant are insured. The number of contracts on which a premium is earned is usually less than the number of contracts in force because farmers in some years do not plant any acreage of tobacco.

² Data for 1946 in process of being tabulated.

Two plans of corn-crop insurance, yield and investment, were tried. The yield plan insured against loss of yield, as in wheat, cotton, and flax, with the amount of protection not exceeding 75 percent of the farm's average yield. A modified type of yield insurance was offered in a few counties. It was a plan whereby a predetermined price per bushel was used in computing the value of both the premiums and indemnities.

The second plan afforded the producer protection based on his investment in the crop. The investment or typical cost per acre was determined by making a detailed study of the cost of production. Under this plan the amount of insurance was stated in dollars instead of commodity units. It afforded the producer lower protection than yield insurance at a correspondingly lower premium rate. Generally, the highest level of investment insurance ranged from about one-half

to two-thirds of the protection provided by yield insurance.

Under this plan two types of investment insurance were tried. The first type set a basic amount of protection per acre for each county. This basic amount was not in excess of 75 percent of the typical cost per acre and was applicable to all farms in the county with a few exceptions, which were the abnormally low yielding farms. The other type of investment insurance was tried in five of the experimental corn counties. Under this type, all farms were generally grouped into three classifications: Low yield group, average yield group, and higher than average yield group. A low basic amount of insurance was established which was applicable to all farms within a yield group. This basic amount of insurance could be increased by the farmer by following certain yield-increasing practices, such as application of fertilizer, use of hybrid seed, etc. The maximum protection, however, under this plan could not exceed 75 percent of the investment in the crop.

On a monetary basis the total 1946 corn insurance premiums amounted to approximately \$375,000. The losses were 80 percent of the premiums. Losses were heavy in only 4 of the 19 counties. In 3 of these counties, the primary cause of loss was drought. In the other county considerable damage was caused by frost, cool wet weather, and windstorm. This loss experience is shown in table 5 for individual counties and in table 6 for all 19 counties combined. It will be observed from table 5 that the over-all loss experience was more favorable for investment insurance than for yield insurance. This was due to the fact that investment insurance was a lower level of protection than yield insurance. Since investment insurance offers a lower level of protection at a lower premium rate it is expected that the percent of loss will ordinarily be less than for yield insurance except in years when severe crop losses occur. A close review of the loss experience by counties shows that there was essentially no difference between the loss experience for yield and investment insurance in the 3 counties where heavy losses occurred in 1946.

The cumulative figures for all corn insurance show a slight operating deficit for the 2 years 1945–46 combined. This deficit is due to the relatively heavy corn losses sustained in 1945. These losses were due primarily to excessive moisture and an early fall frost in nearly one-

half of the experimental counties.

Table 5.—Corn trial crop insurance experience, by counties, 1945-47
[As of June 30, 1947]
Yield Insurance

											1
		Con-				Cre	Crop planted and premium earned	oremium earned			
State and county	Crop	tracts in force 1	Con- tracts 1	Farms 1	Indem- nities	Insured	Insured	Premiums	Indemnities	Surplus or deficit	Loss ratio
Illinois: Montgomery	1945	Number 952 344	Number 903 342	$\substack{Number\\1,125\\405}$	Number 542 13	Acres 24, 946	Bushels 394, 992	Bushels 33, 740 17, 608	Bushels 74, 975 1, 154	Bushels -41, 235 16, 454	2. 22
Vermilion	1947	189 234	233	297	4			29, 222	298	28, 624	. 02
Indiana: Miami	1947 1945 1946	565 438	557	769	10 37	22, 568	413, 385	14, 757	919	13, 838 6, 331	. 48
Iowa: Marion	1947 1945 1946	333 775 171	744 169	$\frac{1}{1}, \frac{149}{252}$	259	27, 760	522, 051	33, 575 24, 140	65, 647 19, 553	-32, 072 4, 587	1.96
Kansas: Phillips	1947 1945 1946	182	87	148	93	7, 289	30,060	4, 626 9, 496	19, 751	$\frac{4,460}{-10,255}$	2.08
Kentucky: Daviess	1947	3 co co	33	36				1, 656	113	1, 543	. 07
Maryland: Kent	1947 1945 1946	263 73		301	900	7, 527	144, 138	9, 668 2, 809	5, 396	4, 272 2, 568	. 56
Michigan: Hillsdale	1947 1945 1946	1, 337 363	$\frac{1,324}{362}$	1,763 433	333	28, 900	500, 153	28, 709 10, 872	37, 390 68, 737	-8, 681 -57, 865	1. 30 6. 32
Minnesota: Redwood	1947 1945 1946	274 127	$\frac{271}{122}$	$\frac{396}{151}$	151	19, 160	327, 972	34, 313 18, 827	52, 654 9, 850	-18, 341 8, 977	1.53
Missouri: Carroll	1947 1945 1946 1946	132 939 198 100	198	1, 186	767	28, 328	475, 601	49, 369 18, 969	135,920 6,054	-86, 551 12, 915	2. 75
	1.54.1	1001	1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1	1	1					,

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5.—Corn trial crop insurance experience, by counties, 1945-47—Continued YIELD INSURANCE—Continued [As of June 30, 1947]

		Con-				Cr	Crop planted and premium earned	premium earne			
State and county	Crop	tracts in force 1	Con- tracts 1	Farms 1	Indem- nities	Insured	Insured	Premiums	Indemnities	Surplus or deficit	Loss
Nebraska: Saunders	1945	Number 480 205	Number 480 205	Number 728 250	Number 38 4	Acres 35, 200	Rushels 382, 310	Bushels 48, 081 33, 155	Bushels 6, 053 1, 840	Bushels 42, 028 31, 315	. 13
Ohio: Champaign	1947 1945 1946 1946	377 179	366 179	451	12 10	12, 932	298, 372	13, 942 6, 255	2, 019 6, 318	11,923 -63	1. 01
Pennsylvania: Chester	1947 1945 1946	340 340 30 30	339.	482	22	23,616	205, 956	25, 685	4, 177	21, 508	
Wisconsin: Sauk	1945 1946 1946 1947	1, 311 378 602	1, 278	1,510	1,052	27, 187	594,081	25, 028 22, 731	143, 574	118, 546 15, 837	5. 74
Yield insurance total	1945 1946 1947	7, 700 2, 851 2, 895	7, 540	10, 008	3, 226	265, 412	4, 289, 071	321, 493 212, 812	528, 890 178, 634	-207, 397 34, 178	1.65
			I	IVESTME	INVESTMENT INSURANCE	URANCE					
Alabama: Madison	1946	Number 112	Number 112	Number 115	Number 37	Acres	Dollars	Dollars 1 , 533. 20	Dollars 4, 473. 84	Dollars -2, 940. 64	2. 92
Georgia: Houston	1946	122	122	136	4			3,024.12	738. 57	2, 285. 55	. 24
Illinois: Vermilion	1945 1945 1946 1947	27.2 50 45.0 45.0	271	388	12	18, 774	228, 449	13, 238. 16 4, 534. 21	2, 500. 46 352. 76	10, 737. 70	. 19

Maryland: Kent. Kent. 1946 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 160 123 123 123 123 123 123 123 123 123 123 124 14 134 119 134 134 13 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48	7, 007	1, 564	10	100, 24(1, 837, 244	28, 383, 20 28, 608, 67	19, 360, 72 1, 973, 60	9, 022. 48 26, 635. 07	. 07
1946 19 1947 1	123	204	72			6, 430. 05 5, 350. 49	8, 768. 62	-5, 494. 56 -3, 418. 13	
1946 48	18	20	0		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	264.32	0	264.32	00.
_	48	54	2			949.32	52.64	896. 68	90.
160	160	200	84		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	2, 182. 79	11, 236.01	-9,053.22	5. 15
222 449	222 449	305	24	14, 797	182, 722	14, 658. 17 20, 112. 78	12, 223, 13 4, 165, 69	2, 435. 04 15, 947. 09	. 21
58	58	81	1		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	2, 312.93	31.80	2, 281. 13	.01
145	145	180	2			10, 229, 61	764.80	9, 464. 81	20.
731 479 481	475	813	31	13, 520	389, 236	-9, 434. 70 7, 946. 33	6, 828. 63 4, 900. 03	2, 606. 07 3, 046. 30	. 62
69	69	98	60			5, 170. 59	330. 68	4,839.91	90.
110	109	138	30			1,813.22	2, 293.01	479.79	1.26
$\begin{vmatrix} 1,104 & 1, \\ 369 & \end{vmatrix}$	1,095	1, 197	305		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	16, 855. 29	26, 353. 56	-9, 498. 27	1.56
Investment insurance total 1945 2, 903 2, 876 4, 571 4, 494 1947 3, 972	1	3, 570	193	153, 338	2, 637, 651	65, 714. 23 117, 317. 92	40, 912. 94 67, 371. 10	24, 801. 29 49, 946. 82	. 57
Total, all corn	10, 416 7, 330	13, 578	3, 419	418, 750					

¹ The number of farms is larger than the number of contracts because a farmer's contract generally includes all the farms in which he has an insurable interest in the county. The figure representing number of farms includes duplication where both landlord and tenant are insured. The number of contracts on which a premium is earned is usually less than the number of contracts in force because farmers in some years do not plant any acreage of corn.

Table 6.—Federal crop insurance experience, United States summary, 1945-47 [As of June 30, 1947]

			Loss ratio	0.44	. 57	1.06	.72	3.45	3.44	.18	.46	1.65	1.24
			Surplus or deficit	Dollars 827, 096. 65 8, 737, 340. 75	9, 564, 437. 40	573, 712. 43 524, 168. 40	49, 544. 03	87, 000. 00	-51, 680, 677. 90	147, 053. 47 644, 947. 06	792, 000. 53	-260, 132. 41 76, 485. 09	-183, 647. 32
		Monetary basis	Gain or loss from commodity transactions	Dollars 2, 798, 315.60	2, 798, 315. 60		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		-654, 101. 96	0 4 1 0 0 2 0	0 0 0 0 3 5 3		
		Moneta	Indemnities	Dollars 687, 177. 66 10, 135, 191. 23	10, 822, 368. 89	842, 175. 04 1, 170, 795. 18	2, 012, 970. 22	20, 541, 499. 55 50, 940, 974. 13	71, 482, 473. 68	529, 953. 48 145, 802. 59	675, 756. 07	657, 443. 40 299, 419. 36	956, 862. 76
	earned		Premiums	Dollars 612, 208 1, 514, 274. 31 3, 858, 928 16, 074, 216. 38	4, 471, 136 17, 588, 490. 69 10, 822, 368. 89 2, 798, 315. 60	1, 415, 887. 47 646, 626. 78	2, 062, 514. 25	-54,000,159 5,273,908.97 20,541,499.55 -106,157,520 15,181,898.77 50,940,974.13	20, 455, 897. 74	677, 006. 95 790, 749. 65	1, 467, 756.60	397, 310, 99 375, 904. 45	773, 215. 44
	Crop planted and premium earned	basis	Surplus or deficit 4		4, 471, 136	198, 307	187, 521	-54, 090, 159 -106, 157, 520	-160, 247, 679	1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
	op planted s	Commodity basis	Indemnl- ties 4	471, 616 5, 367, 433	5, 839, 049	288, 769 183, 918	472, 687	382, 233, 645, 22, 328, 346, 76, 418, 505 527, 400, 321, 43, 246, 125, 149, 403, 645	225, 822, 150	1	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8		
	C		Premi- ums 4	1, 083, 824 9, 226, 361	10, 310, 185	487, 076 173, 132	660, 208	22, 328, 346 43, 246, 125	65, 574, 471		0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		
			Insured produc- tion ³	8, 042, 204 84, 159, 618		3, 670, 577	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	382, 233, 645 527, 400, 321	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	54, 163 14, 557, 715	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	7,612,973	
4			Insured acre- age ²	12, 207 1, 098, 637 45, 382 9, 223, 833		789, 142		48, 385 3, 049, 905 72, 975 4, 306, 145				418, 750	
			Indem- nities	12 :		6, 936		!		1,829	1 3 8 9 1 1	3,419	
			Farms 1	Number 19, 494 292, 050		31, 789	8 8 8 8 1 1	113, 840		13,824		13, 578	
			Con- tracts 1	Number 12, 836 225, 246		26, 036 8, 832		89, 979		12,068		10, 416	
		Con-	tracts in force 1	Number 14, 390 305, 428 360, 408	-	31, 131 10, 412 35, 613	1	96, 231 114, 270 122, 212		12, 587 13, 815 14, 676		10, 603 7, 422 6, 868	
	Commodity for		Commodity	Wheat: 1945 6 1946	Total 1945-46	Flax: 1945	Total 1945-46	Cotton: 1945 1946 1947	Total 1945-46	Tobacco: 1945	Total 1945-46	Corn: 1945 1946 1947	Total 1945-46.

	FE	DERA1
9, 278, 478, 69 23, 288, 249, 13 87, 000, 00 13, 892, 770, 44	302, 293, 62 207. 10	42, 347, 874. 72 86, 950, 431. 62 2, 144, 213. 64 -41, 363, 890. 39
87, 000. 00 2, 057, 213. 64		2, 144, 213. 64
9, 278, 478, 69 23, 288, 249, 13 87, 000, 00 33, 069, 396, 03 62, 692, 182, 49, 2, 057, 213, 64		85, 950, 431. 62
9, 278, 478, 69 33, 069, 396. 03		42, 347, 874. 72
62, 776 5, 410, 597		
151, 335 192, 534 62, 776 5, 410, 597 360, 722 460, 516 124, 101		
62, 776 5, 410, 597		
62,77	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
192, 534 460, 516		
151, 335 360, 722		
164, 942 451, 347 539, 777		1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Total, all com- modities: 164,942 1945	Other income and expenses, 1945-46: Interest income. Debt cancelation. Provision for uncollectible accounts.	Total operating results, 1945–46.

a premium was earned is usually less than the number of contracts because a farmer's contract generally includes all his farms in the county. The number of contracts and farms on which must be contracts in force because farmers in some years do not plant any acreage of the insurable commodity. The figure representing number of farms included cupit/faction where both landlord and tenant are insured.

2 Figures for 1946 cotton are estimated. Corn and tobacco 1946 figures are now being tabulated.

3 Figures for 1946 cotton are estimated. Corn and tobacco 1946 figures are now being tabulated.

4 Wheat and flax figures expressed in bushels, cotton figures in pounds.

4 Wheat and flax figures expressed in bushels, cotton figures in pounds.

4 Wheat and flax figures expressed in bushels, cotton figures in pounds.

5 Figure flax figures expressed in bushels, cotton figures in pounds.

6 Figure flax figures expressed in bushels, cotton figures in pounds.

indemnities.

O The figures shown for 1945 include only spring wheat, since no winter wheat for harvest in 1945 was insured

Participation in the corn-crop insurance program dropped from 7,413 contracts in 1946 to 6,868 in 1947 despite considerable shifting of volume in several counties. The 1947 contracts represented 19 percent of the corn-producing farms in the 19 counties compared with 21 percent in 1946. Each of these years, however, represented a substantial decrease from the 1945 participation. During the first year of the corn program the heaviest participation was in the yield type of insurance but in the last 2 years the decrease in participation in yield insurance has resulted in a lower number of these contracts being in

force than the investment type.

Several changes were made in the 1947 corn program. The major change was in the method of loss adjustment. Many farmers sell part of their corn and feed the balance. The nature of corn is such that there is no need for a quick harvest and the harvesting in many cases is spread over a relatively longer period of time than that for other commodities. During this time, however, there is usually some harvesting done and a part of the corn is fed with no records being kept. As a result of such situations the 1947 contract provided for the Corporation to adjust losses on the basis of an appraisal of the actual corn produced and still in the field rather than wait a considerable period of time until all the corn is harvested and risk the possibility

of not being able to secure accurate production figures.

Corn presents some problems which are quite distinct from those in tobacco and the other commodities being insured. As stated earlier, corn is a crop which is frequently partially sold for cash and partially fed. There is also a tendency to plant longer-maturing higher-yielding varieties which create yield problems as well as risk problems because of the greater risk from frost. These problems combined with the lesser degree of acceptance of corn insurance by farmers do not mean that the insurance of corn is impractical but they do suggest that further experimentation is necessary. Accordingly, the Corporation plans to make only a moderate expansion in the corn insurance program for the following crop year and to concentrate on the solution of the foregoing problems.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial condition of the Corporation as of June 30, 1947, is reflected by the comparative balance sheet following these comments. It shows account status at June 30, 1946, and June 30, 1947. Other statements consist of a comparative statement of administrative and operating expenses and a summary of annual administrative appropriations for each year of operation and administrative and operating expenditures made therefrom.

The financial statements do not reflect premium income on 1947 crops for insurance in force on June 30, 1947, except for a small amount of premiums paid prior to maturity of the premium notes. The amount of such advance premium payments less the amount of approved indemnity claims covering early losses on the 1947 crop is shown in the balance sheet and classified as "Deferred income."

Premium notes are executed with the signing of applications for insurance; however, the commodity premium, such as bushels of wheat and flax or pounds of cotton, is not determined until reports of

the acreage planted on each insured farm have been obtained. After the premiums have been established in terms of the commodity insured, they cannot be included in the financial statements on a monetary basis until the cash-equivalent conversion prices have been established, based on applicable market prices effective on maturity dates of the notes. On the basis of current price levels it is estimated that premiums on 1947 insured crops will aggregate approximately 51 million dollars. Substantially all crop losses on the 1947 crop will be determined and paid subsequent to June 30, 1947.

The balance sheet reflects activities affecting the capital and insurance funds only. The equipment owned by the Corporation does not appear as an asset, since purchases of equipment are made from funds

appropriated separately for administrative expenses.

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS ON BALANCE SHEET

(Exhibit A, p. 42)

Cash

Cash amounting to \$10,177,564.96 was on deposit with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and the Chief Disbursing Officer of the Treasury Department as of June 30, 1947. Treasury Department facilities are utilized in making deposits and disbursements. Receipts and disbursements are handled by the Chicago branch office of the Corporation through the accounts of the Chief Disbursing Officer of the Treasury Department, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago being used as the depository.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Premiums on insurance contracts amounting to \$2,511,803.04 as of June 30, 1947, consist primarily of indebtedness due from insured producers on crop-insurance premium notes for the 1942, 1943, 1945, and 1946 crop years; unpaid interest on premium notes for the 1945 and 1946 crop years; and credit items representing overpayments by insured producers, which are to be refunded. Interest is not recorded on delinquent premiums until collected except in cases where remittances covering payment of premiums in full do not include interest and are received after the expiration of the interest-free period. The increase of \$1,192,504.29 over the balance as of June 30, 1946, represents the net excess of insurance premiums on 1946 crop year contracts over total collections received during the 1947 fiscal year. This outstanding balance is about 3 percent of the total amount of the premium notes for the 1942, 1943, 1945, and 1946 crop years.

The reserve for uncollectible accounts of \$561,270.30 represents the balance as of June 30, 1947, of a reserve established during the fiscal year 1947 as applicable to unpaid balances of premiums on insurance

contracts for the crop years 1942 through 1946.

The amount of \$851,647.33 due from the Commodity Credit Corporation (PMA) represents the balance due the Corporation on June 30, 1947, as a result of commodity purchase and sale transactions consummated by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the account of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. The decrease of \$4,371,037.67 reflects the net liquidation in the account during the fiscal year 1947.

The balance due from administrative funds amounting to \$23,735.35 on June 30, 1946, consisting of amounts paid from capital funds for storage expenses was reimbursed from the administrative funds during

the 1947 fiscal year.

The balance of \$12,369.58 shown as due from "Other" represents checks scheduled for cancelation because of change in Chief Disbursing Officers and forwarded to the Treasury Department, Division of Disbursements, for transmittal to the General Accounting Office, the amounts of which have not been transferred from the official balance of the retiring Chief Disbursing Officer and covered into the Treasury.

Commodities Purchased for Deferred Delivery-Wheat

The balance in this account amounting to \$3,705,354.70 at June 30, 1947, represented the cost of 1,725,732 bushels of wheat purchased for deferred delivery (unfilled wheat purchase commitments) by the Commodity Credit Corporation (PMA) for the account of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. The following tabulation shows the bushels by delivery date and indicates a comparison of the market value as of June 30, 1947, with the cost of acquisition:

Delivery Date	Bushels	Market Value	Cost
July 1947		\$3, 636, 338. 44	\$3, 593, 854. 70
September 1947	50, 000	107, 500. 00	111, 500. 00
Total	1, 725, 732	3, 743, 838. 44	3, 705, 354. 70

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Estimated indemnities payable represent established cash values (crop years 1941 to 1945) and estimated cash values (crop years 1946 and 1947) of outstanding certificates of indemnities as of June 30, 1947, issued to insured producers in settlement of loss claims under crop insurance contracts and not presented to the Corporation for payment. The claims resulted from losses that occurred on insured crops during crop years from 1941 to 1943 and from 1945 to 1947. The liability by applicable crop years is shown as follows:

Crop years 1941 to 1943 (established cash value) Crop year 1945 (established cash value) Crop year 1946 (estimated) Crop year 1947 (estimated)	24, 531. 00 1, 779, 662. 00
Total	2, 070, 827. 85

The estimated liability for the 1946 and 1947 crop years does not include liability for unapproved indemnity claims. The following summary reflects the distribution of the liability for unliquidated loss claims on the several crops insured by the Corporation:

Cotton contracts	\$1, 780, 698. 15
Wheat contracts	
Flax contracts	4, 749. 00
Corn contracts	10, 561. 00
Total	2, 070, 827. 85

The Corporation's liability on indemnity claims in most cases is computed in terms of commodity, and a certificate of indemnity is issued to a claimant in settlement of an approved indemnity claim. Until such time as the certificate is surrendered to the Corporation for payment or an established cash equivalent of the claim is determined, an estimate of the value of the outstanding certificate is necessary. Average market prices on dates applicable to the respective commodities are the bases for the estimate.

The increase of \$770,052.40 in estimated indemnities payable as of June 30, 1947, compared with June 30, 1946, consists of indemnities applicable to the 1946 and 1947 crop years after an offsetting net reduction of \$901,872.60 in estimated indemnities for the crop years

1941 to 1945.

Returned checks unclaimed-canceled amounting to \$7,436.47 consist of amounts due insured producers for which checks issued in payment were, for various reasons, not delivered to the payees. Such checks are returned to the Corporation and canceled. When payees are located, new checks are issued in payment of the amounts due.

The balance due administrative funds amounting to \$56,371.30 is comprised of storage recoveries deducted from indemnity payments which are payable to the administrative fund. Adjustments of these

accounts are made periodically.

Deferred Liabilities

The balance of unfilled wheat purchase commitments amounting to \$3,705,354.70 represents the cost value of undelivered wheat purchases (purchased for deferred delivery) as of June 30, 1947.

Undistributed Credits

This balance consists of unapplied premium receipts amounting to \$38,732.72 as of June 30, 1947. Insurance premiums are normally collected by county associations which in turn transmit them to the branch office. However, in some instances insured producers transmit premium payments directly to the branch office without including complete information relative to their contracts. Such insurance premium receipts which cannot be immediately identified are placed in this account until proper distribution can be made.

Deferred Income

This balance amounting to \$349,656.57 as of June 30, 1947, represents premiums collected before maturity on insurance contracts (less approved indemnity claims) for the 1947 crop year as follows:

Premium collections	
-	
Net amount	349, 656. 57

The decrease of \$2,186,422.93 represents the net decrease in premiums collected before maturity (less approved indemnity claims) for the crop year 1947 compared with the crop year 1946.

CAPITAL

Capital stock outstanding as of June 30, 1947, amounted to \$90,000,000. The Corporation's enabling act authorized capital stock in the amount of \$100,000,000. Of this amount, \$90,000,000 has been subscribed by the Secretary of the Treasury; and that amount was requisitioned by the Corporation prior to June 30, 1947.

The increase of \$20,000,000 in capital stock outstanding as of June 30, 1947, compared with June 30, 1946, represents an additional appropriation made to the Secretary of the Treasury during the fiscal year 1947, which was requisitioned by the Corporation prior to the

close of the fiscal year.

The operating deficit of \$79,530,910.30 represents the total deficit from insurance operations applicable to the crop years from 1939 to 1943, inclusive, and to the crop years 1945 and 1946. The operating deficit from insurance operations recorded during the fiscal year 1947 amounted to \$28,807,497.15. This increase in deficit is applicable to crop years as follows:

Crop years 1945 and 1946 Crop years 1939 to 1943, inclusive	
Total increase	28, 807, 497. 15

The increase in deficit applicable to crop years 1945 and 1946 is reflected by commodities in table 6 of this report. The increase in deficit applicable to the crop years 1939 to 1943, inclusive, consists of the following:

Adjustments to insurance premiumsIncrease in approved indemnity claims Debt cancellations, net Provision for uncollectible accounts	\$1, 421. 16 10, 325. 04 15, 183. 78 353, 222. 45
TotalDeduct—Adjustment, profit on sale of commodities	380, 152. 43 16. 01
Total crop years 1939 to 1943	380, 136. 42

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING EXPENSES (Exhibits B and C, pp. 43 and 44)

Exhibit B reflects a comparison of administrative and operating expenses for the 1947 and 1946 fiscal year appropriations as of June 30, 1947. The increase in total expenses amounting to \$489,728.72 for the fiscal year 1947, as compared with the fiscal year 1946, reflects costs of administration in connection with increased volume of insurance contracts under the Corporation's insurance program during the fiscal year 1947. This increase was from 451,347 contracts in 1946 to 539,777 contracts in 1947.

Exhibit C summarizes the administrative and operating expenses of the Corporation by fiscal years as of June 30, 1947, on a basis of total appropriations for each of the years the Corporation has been in existence. The changes reflected in expenses for the fiscal years 1939, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, and 1946, as compared with amounts shown in the report of June 30, 1946, result from liquidation or can-

celation of unliquidated obligations for those fiscal years during the fiscal year 1947. The detail of expenses for the fiscal years 1947 and

1946 is shown in Exhibit B.

Direct administrative and operating expenses of the Corporation from the time of its organization to June 30, 1947, amounted to \$19,246,001.94 as reflected in Exhibit C. This amount represents expenses of the headquarters office and field offices and includes storage expenses in the amount of \$2,165,761.99. For the same period expenses for cooperating agencies which have contributed toward the operations of the insurance programs amounted to \$27,065,778.73, of which amount \$25,877,332.79 was expended by the Field Service Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration. This represents approximately 58 percent of the total program expenses and reflects to a great extent the cost of field operations. Beginning in the fiscal year 1945 and continuing through the fiscal year 1947, field expenses for insurance contract sales and loss adjustments have been paid directly by the Corporation instead of by transfer to another agency.

EXHIBIT A

CAPITAL FUNDS

Comparative balance sheet for the fiscal years ended June 30, 1947, and June 30, 1946, as of June 30, 1947

Ass	ETS		
	Fiscal yea June 30, 1947	r ended— June 30, 1946	Increase or decrease
Cash	\$10, 177, 564. 96	\$16, 619, 694. 70	-\$6,442,129.74
Accounts receivable:			
Premiums on insurance contracts Less: Reserve for uncollectible accounts	2, 511, 803. 04 561, 270. 30	1, 319, 298. 75	1, 192, 504. 29 561, 270. 30
Net amount	1, 950, 532. 74 851, 647. 33	1, 319, 298. 75 5, 222, 685. 00 23, 735. 35	631, 233, 99 -4, 371, 037, 67 -23, 735, 35
Other	12, 369. 58	284. 18	12, 085. 40
Total accounts receivable	2, 814, 549. 65	6, 566, 003. 28	-3, 751, 453. 63
Commodities purchased for deferred delivery—Wheat.	3, 705, 354. 70		3, 705, 354. 70
Total assets	16, 697, 469. 31	23, 185, 697. 98	-6, 488, 228. 67
T.IADII IMIES	AND CAPITAL		
Accounts payable:			
Indemnities payable (estimated)	1 \$2, 070, 827. 85 7, 436. 47 56, 371. 30	¹ \$1, 300, 775. 45 2, 553. 63	\$770, 052. 40 4, 882. 84 56, 371. 30
Total accounts payable	2, 134, 635. 62	1, 303, 329. 08	831, 306. 54
Deferred liabilities: Unfilled wheat-purchase commitments	3, 705, 354. 70		3, 705, 354. 70
Undistributed credits: Unapplied premium receipts	38, 732. 7 2	69, 702. 55	-30, 969. 83
Deferred income: Premium collections (less approved indemnity)			
claims)	349, 656. 57	2, 536, 079. 50	-2, 186, 422. 93
Total liabilities	6, 228, 379. 61	3, 909, 111. 13	2, 319, 268. 48
Capital:			
Capital stock authorized Less: Unissued stock	100, 000, 000. 00 10, 000, 000. 00	100, 000, 000. 00 30, 000, 000. 00	-20, 000, 000. 00
Capital stock outstanding Operating deficit	90, 000, 000. 00 79, 530, 910. 30	70, 000, 000. 00 50, 723, 413. 15	20, 000, 000. 00 28, 807, 497. 15
Net capital	10, 469, 089. 70	19, 276, 586. 85	-8, 807, 497. 15
Total liabilities and capital	16, 697, 469. 31	23, 185, 697. 98	-6, 488, 228. 67

¹ Does not include liability for unapproved indemnity claims.

EXHIBIT B

Comparative statement of administrative and operating expenses for the 1947 and 1946 fiscal year appropriations, as of June 30, 1947

	Expenses, as o	Expenses, as of June 30, 1947		
Item	1947 appro- priation	1946 appro- priation	Increase or decrease	
Direct expenses exeept commodity storage: Personal services	\$3,060,321,23 371,286,84 40,978,49 24,169,73 58,159,71 74,630,10 61,292,09 603,561,00 57,667,99 42,477,41	\$1, 873, 620, 63 315, 533, 86 15, 533, 49 141, 517, 58 29, 278, 82 71, 681, 39 47, 175, 45 981, 937, 45 6, 000, 00 43, 178, 14	\$1, 186, 700. 60 55, 752. 98 25, 445. 00 -17, 347. 85 28, 880. 89 2, 948. 71 14, 116. 64 -378, 376. 45 51, 667. 99 -700. 73	
Total direct expense except commodity storage_ Commodity storage: Wheat	4, 394, 544. 59 323, 766. 85 12, 215. 06	3, 425, 456. 81	969, 087. 78 323, 766. 85 525. 84	
Total direct expenses	4,730,526.50 659,983.00 1,627,436.50	3, 437, 146. 03 795, 584. 00 2, 273, 790. 00	1, 293, 380. 47 -135, 601. 00 -646, 353. 50	
Total FSB Office of Information Treasury Department: Treasurer's Office Division of Disbursement	2, 287, 419. 50 610. 00 22, 161. 00	3, 069, 374, 00 1, 683, 47 630, 00 16, 244, 00	-781, 954, 50 -1, 683, 47 -20, 00 5, 917, 00	
Total expenses of ecoperating agencies	2, 310, 190. 50	3, 087, 931. 47	-777, 740. 97	
Total expenses (excluding equipment purchases)	7, 040, 717. 00 588. 77	6, 525, 077. 50 26, 499. 55	515, 639. 50 -25, 910. 78	
Total expenses	7, 041, 305. 77	6, 551, 577. 05	489, 728. 72	

¹ Includes penalty mail in the amount of \$24,304.98.

Summary of administrative and operating expenses by appropriations, as of June 30, 1947

		Savings		\$730, 453.93 645, 384.99 172, 360.99 1784, 193.33 226, 102.33 36, 060.04 837, 218, 71 1,777, 627.93 7,347, 206.33
		Total expenses		\$234, 546, 07 4, 534, 615, 01 5, 656, 538, 93 6, 775, 633, 67 6, 446, 831, 67 6, 446, 831, 67 1, 713, 949, 99 6, 527, 731, 29 6, 527, 272, 07 7, 611, 365, 77 146, 311, 780, 67
100 000		ıcies	Total	\$965,000,000 \$234,546,07 \$635,384,546,07 \$645,988,491,546,07 \$645,384,546,07 \$645,384,546 \$646,446,546 \$646,447 \$646,4
20 00 00		Cooperating agencies	Other	\$151, 580, 77 191, 916, 17 200, 737, 64 222, 994, 08 209, 693, 81 17, 722, 00 82, 923, 00 18, 557, 47 22, 771, 00 1, 188, 445, 94
on carrons,	nses	C00)	FSB 1	\$234,546,07 1,648,344,41 \$308,564,07 1,956,908,48 \$2,266,125,77 1,559,257 1,559,559 1,559 1,559 1,559,559 1,559
To Idd'n 60	Expenses	Corporation	Total	08, 564.07 1, 956, 908, 48, \$2, 246, 125, 76 65, 386, 92 2, 013, 566, 24 2, 814, 425, 07 85, 386, 52 2, 013, 566, 24 2, 814, 435, 07 85, 564, 62 1, 292, 578, 86 4, 884, 579, 00 85, 564, 62 1, 292, 578, 86 4, 884, 579, 00 10, 25, 657, 91 1, 622, 678, 86 11, 689, 22 3, 439, 40, 60 11, 689, 22 3, 439, 340, 60 125, 981, 91, 4731, 115, 27 125, 887, 419, 56 126, 701, 99 19, 246, 001, 94 126, 877, 332, 79
energy dwa		Federal Crop Insurance Corporation	Storage	\$808, 564, 07 888, 317, 17 865, 310, 17 11, 867, 396, 20 25, 667, 91 11, 680, 22 335, 981, 91 335, 981, 91 2, 165, 761, 99
Ser acres		Federal Cr	General	\$234,546,07 1, 648,344,41 1, 320,487,72 1, 168,535,44 1, 351,143,48 1, 351,143,49 901,010 05 1, 030,201,75 24,304,133,36 4,395,133,36 17,080,239,95
o mun aa	Amount			\$965,000,000 6,000,000,000 6,500,000 6,523,200,00 6,523,200,00 6,672,500,00 1,500,000 1,500,000 1,300,000 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00 1,340,000,00
community of authority acree and open acres of appropriate of the formation and other positions.	Net			000000000000000000000000000000000000000
n io 6 inii	Appropría- tions			\$965,000.00 -\$500 -\$500 -\$500 -\$500 000.00 -\$500 000 00 -\$500 000 00 -\$500 000 00 -\$500 000 00 -\$500 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000
		Fiscal year		1938 1939 1940 1941 1941 12-112/3000.017 1946 1250113 (penalty mail) 1946 1260113 (penalty mail) 1947

1 Field Service Branch (PMA), formerly Agricultural Adjustment Agency.



